Table 2

Numbers and Percentages of All Congenital Anomalies (ICD9 740-759) Reported by Unique and Multiple Data Sources North Carolina, 1988-90

Source of Data	Number of Records			Percent of all Records with Congenital Anomalies		
	1988	1989	1990	1988	1989	1990
Sole Source						
Birth Certificates	517	341	441	11.7	5.9	6.8
Medicaid Claims	490	113	106	11.1	1.9	1.6
Infant Deaths	92	78	90	2.1	1.3	1.4
Hospital Discharge	1,530	2,267	2,418	34.6	39.0	37.4
CSHS	675	900	812	15.3	15.5	12.6
NICU	N/A	229	221	N/A	3.9	3.4
Multiple Sources	1,116	1,887	2,377	25.2	32.5	36.8
Total	4,420	5,815	6,465	100	100	100

DISTRIBUTION OF ANOMALIES BY ORGAN SYSTEM AND CASE CHARACTERISTICS

In Table 3, rates for selected birth defects and birth conditions are listed for 1988, 1989 and 1990. The rates represent those infants with Registry records that have one or more of the (listed) diagnoses. Children with two or more heart malformations, for instance, would be included only once in the heart malformations total rate. The same applies to categories such as "other musculoskeletal/integumental anomalies". At the bottom of **Table 3**, the rates for all infants having birth defects in 1988, 1989, and 1990 are shown.

Rates for some birth defects, such as anencephalus, anophthalmos/microphthalmos, and coagulation defects have decreased over the period 1988-90. However, the small number of cases precludes meaningful interpretation of these apparent "trends". Rates for other malformations, such as hydrocephalus, tetralogy of Fallot, omphalocele/gastroschisis, Down syndrome, and congenital syphilis, have increased over the period. The increases in the rates of some congenital malformations from 1988 to 1989 may be due, in part, to improved ascertainment of these conditions through the NICU and statewide hospital discharge data. Changes from 1989-90 were probably not due to changes in data sources, but may still reflect differences in case ascertainment within a particular data source, or they may be attributed to random fluctuations.